

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claims 1 to 10 are pending.

Claims 3, 6-7 and 9 remain unchanged.

Claims 1, 2, 4, 5, 8 and 10 are amended herein.

The status of the claims is as follows:

1. (Currently amended). A weapon comprising a firearm having a butt-end and a fore-end, a barrel through which a projectile may be propelled, a mechanism including a projectile firing trigger for firing off said projectile, wherein said butt-end includes a first hand-grip and said projectile firing trigger is mounted adjacent said first hand-grip said projectile firing trigger operable by a digit of a first hand of an operator grasping the said first hand-grip, and a fluid ejection mechanism for selectively ejecting a stream of fluid in a direction substantially parallel to the axis of the barrel, wherein said fluid ejection mechanism includes a housing mounted on the fore-end of the firearm said housing having a longitudinal axis and constituting a second hand-grip, and mounted in the housing a fluid containing canister having an outlet moveable between fluid retaining and fluid releasing positions and biased by a biasing force into the fluid retaining position, a nozzle mounted in the housing upstream of the outlet with fluid released from the canister passing through said nozzle, and a fluid release mechanism, and wherein said housing comprises a front face and a rear face each spaced radially from the said longitudinal axis of the said housing, said front face including an opening, wherein fluid ejected through said nozzle passes through said opening, ~~the front face further comprising a second hand-grip portion,~~ and wherein said rear face includes an opening, and wherein said fluid release mechanism includes a fluid releasing trigger-is accessible-actuated-through said opening and, in use fingers

of second hand of the operator extending around the said front face of the said housing, and a said thumb of said second hand passing through said opening and engaging with said fluid releasing trigger and closing on itself to operate said fluid-release-mechanism releasing trigger, characterised in that the said fluid releasing trigger is movable in a direction substantially opposite to the direction of the biasing force biasing the said nozzle to its closed position.

2. (Currently amended):

A weapon according to Claim 1, wherein said ~~fluid-release-mechanism~~ releasing trigger comprises a lever pivotable about a pivot axis between first and second positions, and wherein with the lever in the first position the outlet of the canister is in the fluid retaining position, and with the lever in the second position the outlet of the canister is in the fluid releasing position.

3. (Original). A weapon according to Claim 2, wherein the lever engages with the nozzle and during movement from the first to the second position generates movement of the nozzle towards the outlet of the canister.

4. (Currently amended):

A weapon according to Claim 2, wherein the lever comprises a pad, said pad being engagable by the thumb to move the ~~trigger~~ lever from said first position to said second position.

5. (Currently amended):

A weapon according to Claim 4, wherein with the lever in the first position a longitudinal centre-line of said pad is located in substantially the same plane as the pivot axis of said ~~trigger~~ lever.

6. (Original). A weapon according to Claim 4, wherein with the lever in the first position the said pad is located in a plane below the plane of said pivot axis.

7. (Original). A weapon according to Claim 2, wherein the lever extends through the opening in the rear face of the housing.

8. (Currently amended):

A weapon according to Claim 1, wherein said fluid releasing trigger consists of the nozzle, said nozzle including a pad engagable by said thumb, whereby exertion of a downward force on the pad by the thumb moves the nozzle towards the canister, thereby moving the outlet against said biasing force from the fluid retaining position to the fluid releasing position.

9. (Original). A weapon according to Claim 1, wherein said fore-end comprises a rail and said housing is attached to said rail by a bracket, wherein one end of said bracket is attached to said rail and the housing is attached to the other end of said bracket.

10. (Currently amended):

A weapon comprising a firearm having a butt-end and a fore-end, a barrel through which a projectile may be propelled, a mechanism including a first trigger for firing off said projectile, wherein said butt-end includes a first hand-grip and said projectile firing trigger is mounted adjacent said first hand-grip said first trigger operable by a digit of an operator's first hand grasping said first hand-grip, and a fluid ejection mechanism for selectively ejecting a stream of fluid in a direction substantially parallel to the axis of the barrel, wherein said fluid ejection mechanism includes a housing mounted on the fore-end of the firearm, said housing having a longitudinal axis and constituting a second hand-grip, and mounted in the housing

a fluid containing canister having an outlet moveable between fluid retaining and fluid releasing positions and biased by a biasing force into the fluid retaining position, a nozzle mounted in the housing upstream of the outlet with fluid released from the canister passing through said nozzle, and a fluid release mechanism comprising a second trigger spaced radially from the longitudinal axis of housing operable by a digit of an operator's second hand gripping said second hand-grip, characterised in that the second trigger is operatively connected to said outlet and is movable radially towards the said longitudinal axis of the housing to move the said outlet to said fluid releasing position, in use said digit closing on itself to operate said second trigger.